

The Petersburg Post couples us with the Norfolk Ledger, and declares that both papers oppose General Mahone because they know and fear his strength. The Post may speak for itself, but not for us. It has a poor opinion of us, or of an editor's duty, if it really supposes that we would be guilty of conduct such as it describes, or that a newspaper having any just conception of its mission could be so blind as to undertake to deceive its readers. If the Post could convince us that General Mahone is the most popular of the candidates for the office of Governor, we should not only not suppress the fact, but would feel it incumbent upon us to let it be known. If one of our correspondents were willing to deceive us on this point, intentionally misrepresenting the voters of his county to be in favor of DANIEL, or LEE, or TALLIAFERRO, when he knew them to be in favor of MAHONE, we should deem it good reason for dispensing with his services. The Dispatch is first of all a newspaper. It tries to furnish its readers with the news of the day. But falsehoods are not news; and so we do not want any of them for our columns. Our Washington correspondent could if it were necessary testify that the first of his instructions when he was about to start for that city to supply us with the news from the capital was that he must always be sure of his facts. We always follow this rule in instructing our correspondents. This gubernatorial campaign will last but a few months. The Dispatch hopes to last for many years. What utter folly, then, would it be for us to mislead our patrons and voluntarily ruin our own reputation for forecast and political sagacity, even if all considerations were lost sight of other than those based upon self-interest.

Now, let the Post tell us where General Mahone's strength lies. We will put our guess down upon paper, asking the Post to reproduce it, and in return we will chronicle its predictions as to how the various sections of the State will vote in Convention on the first ballot. Let the event be the test of its and our forecast. We predict, then, that HOLLIDAY will get almost the unanimous vote of the counties between Rockbridge and Frederick. In Fairfax and down to Spotsylvania, F. LEE is the favorite. In Alexandria, DANIEL and HOLLIDAY will have votes. The whole north-side Piedmont region will be divided between HOLLIDAY, DANIEL, LEE, and TALLIAFERRO. The Eastern-Shore counties and the tide-water region will give TALLIAFERRO a large vote. Appomattox, Campbell, Buckingham, and Cumberland, will be for DANIEL. Halifax, Roanoke, Mecklenburg, Botetourt, Craig, Rockbridge, Bedford, Franklin, Henry, and Carroll, will divide, but DANIEL will probably get the most of their votes. The Southwest region will be divided between TERRY, HOLLIDAY, DANIEL, TALLIAFERRO, and MAHONE. Petersburg, Prince George, Brunswick, Amelia, Nottoway, and a few other counties along the line of the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio railroad, will cast their vote for MAHONE; but not Norfolk city nor Norfolk county. And so on the first ballot HOLLIDAY will receive the highest vote, and DANIEL and TALLIAFERRO will both beat MAHONE. We do not feel very confident that MAHONE will be the fourth, but we do feel that he will not be higher than the third. There's our guess. Now, let us have yours.

Mr. Goode, of Virginia, who is now in Washington, and who is being urged by his numerous friends in the South for Speaker of the next House of Representatives, had a long interview with Mr. Randall, the most prominent candidate for that position, at the Capitol yesterday. — *Alexandria Gazette.*

That's right. Why should not RANDALL and GOODE take counsel together?

By the way, a gentleman who ought to know tells us that whilst Mr. RANDALL as a Pennsylvanian may be in favor of TOM SCOTT'S Texas-Pacific railroad, yet as a candidate for Speaker he will refuse to make any pledges touching the scheme.

THE SOUTHWEST.—A correspondent of the Lynchburg News who has been travelling in Southwest Virginia—we suppose it is Mr. WADSWELL himself—writes to that paper as follows:

I have heard prominent men speak of the aspirants for the gubernatorial contest, and Major Daniel, so far as I can learn, seems to be the choice of the Southwest. In fact, there is no doubt about this.

"Moms in New York"—a carnival in Gotham—is as much out of place as a green cucumber on a December dinner-table. We advise the New Yorkers to read *Esop's Fables*, especially the one that reads something like this:

An ass, seeing a little dog fondled by its master, essayed to imitate the faithful little brute's pranks, and, rearing upon its hind legs, knocked the master over. Whereat the master became greatly enraged, &c., &c. Moral.—Asses can do everything that playful little dogs can.

You will observe, friend FOWLER, that we took no exceptions to your expressive phrase, but, on the contrary, declared that it was good. We intend to "blow" our pet railroad project.

Our polite correspondent in the Capitol will see that another antiquarian has answered the query of "WEM."

We have received the April No. of the *Edinburgh Review* from Messrs. WOODHOUSE & PARHAM. It contains an article on *Wladimir's Russia*, which will be found highly interesting just now.

The Southside Candidates.

A distinguished politician, whose presence has been fully demonstrated on many occasions, told us last week that after a careful survey of the ground he had concluded that the next Governor would be either Mahone, Berkeley, or a third candidate whom we do not choose to name, but it was not Hottiday nor Daniel.

This gentleman remarked that if Berkeley's friends and Mahone's friends combined in a solid phalanx then General Mahone would make Berkeley successful. Anyhow, the Southside is united with Berkeley.

Colonel Berkeley is heartily and loyally at work for General Mahone, but if General Mahone by any "unhappy alliance" or trickery should be a minority in the Convention, then the other sections will find fault with the Southside.

General Mahone has no warmer supporter and no friend who will rejoice more at his success than Colonel Berkeley. All that we urge on behalf of our esteemed townsman is that he should have the character and public services demand that General Mahone should receive the unanimous support of the Southside, and fair consideration from the Conservative party. If these be granted, Mahone or Berkeley will be our next Governor. — *Richmond Mercury.*

We cannot but admire the oracular utterance of the "distinguished politician."

aforsaid. We have a good many "distinguished politicians" hereabouts, and they all with one accord declare that the nominee for Governor will be "MAHONE, or BERKELEY, or a third candidate." So that point may be considered as settled.

Won't the Mercury compromise on Judge Watkins for Lieutenant Governor.

Rejoinder to Dr. Pollard.

RED HOUSE, BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, MAY 16, 1877.

Editors Dispatch: Space me an obscure correspondent in which to quietly controvert you of my unexpected controversy with the New Commissioner of Agriculture, and frankly to acknowledge that horrid pun I did it—with shame I confess it—and no the least the highest honor of Washington and its little hatchet prevents me from denying it in toto. My friend Dr. Pollard, with the aid of a "professor and an acute lawyer," seems to have mastered that pun, and this gives me reason to hope that his mind may yet take in the original subject under discussion.

Had I dreamed that the "Tuckaboe Farmers' Club" and a distinguished professor" (Civis) stood ready to defend, my little pebble would have been left in the brook. The truth is, I have an antipathy against "corn," originally the crop of the nation's savior, and the highest ambition of the "gentle African," who, with his patch planted, feels secure against fate; but tobacco, "fragrant weed" of the courtly Raleigh, I will defend them against all assaults.

The Doctor says: After reading Mr. Ficklen's letter, no reason to change my opinion? and then, in a greatly modified form from his original advice to plant a moderate crop of tobacco, and an increased area in corn. My friend travels all the way to Georgia, and with the high sounding title of "Department of Agriculture," summons Mr. Thomas P. James, who holds in that State the same high trust which Dr. Pollard does in our own, to fortify his position. "Ye Gods," Doctor, one at a time! Don't double the number of your patrons, and I myself was the issue be. But seriously, Doctor, the issue be. In his first letter: "Cultivate corn at the expense of the tobacco crop. To that industrial proposition he gave the weight of his name and official position. I denounce it as a heresy in the name of Middle Virginia. To make good that proposition Dr. Pollard calls for Mr. Hill Carter, who lived on Lower James river—entirely removed from the tobacco section—and establishes by his testimony that on the best alluvial lands, near to market (freight only one cent to Baltimore), a very profitable crop. If the Doctor will pardon me I won't deny that proposition.

The Doctor further asks: "It tobacco is such a profitable crop why has not the tobacco grower richer than the farmer?" The answer is, financially is no better than other sections of the State.

The loss of our slaves and the changed condition of our labor system have made and kept us poor; but I assert the proposition that Middle Virginia, as defined by Virginia's map, up to 1860, comprised the wealth of Virginia in great part, and that the products from her soil in money value was greater then and now per capita than any other division of the State.

Richmond merchants of the decade between 1850 and 1860 will remember that the tobacco crop from Mecklenburg and Charlotte, and Halifax, and Amelia, and Powhatan, and Cumberland, and Buckingham, who bought the expensive goods, and the tread of a forty-hogshead man was not uncommon on our streets.

With favorable seasons that prosperity will again come to the tobacco section; and I cordially invite Dr. Pollard to come and see me, and I will show him thirty acres of land which made last year \$160 per acre in tobacco.

With thanks, Messrs. Editors, for your courtesy, and while the Doctor great success in his new position, I am yours truly, J. B. FICKLEN.

An Important New Process.

MANUFACTURING WROUGHT IRON DIRECTLY FROM THE ORE—SATISFACTORY RESULTS AT THE BLACK DIAMOND STEEL-WORKS.

Mr. A. Siemens, of London, nephew of the celebrated Dr. Siemens, has introduced into the Black Diamond Steel-Works, of this city, his uncle's process of making wrought iron from ore without the intervention of the blast-furnace. The process was tested last week with the most satisfactory results. It is claimed for this process that from the most inferior ore of iron of superior quality can be produced, particularly adapted for steel casting. In blast-furnaces the temperature is so high that sulphur, phosphorus, and silicon, the four elements which in this process the temperature is so low that these elements are eliminated. The principle of the Siemens process is similar to that of Blair's process, but in the former the coal and iron are heated together in a gas furnace while in the latter a retort is used. In making the gas consumed in the Siemens process slack can be used, thus rendering it cheaper than any other known process. By this process puddling is dispensed with, the furnace doing all the work necessary to produce iron of the best quality. This process was introduced in Great Britain about four years ago and is now in use in Birmingham, Sheffield, and elsewhere in England, and in Scotland. It is also in successful operation in France, Austria, and Westphalia. In England, where the Siemens process is used, iron is made fit for steel and the one that contains over one per cent of phosphorus.

THE SYNDICATE'S LAST PURCHASE.—The syndicate on Saturday subscribed for \$50,000 of the four-and-a-half-per-cent bonds on account of the resumption act, the act, they required to pay in gold. The syndicate had the option to pay for this amount during the months of May and June. Since Monday the syndicate paid on account of the subscription \$2,700,000, or more than one half of the whole amount in three days.

BURST OF NARROW-GAUGE RAILROAD.—A friend informs us that a Philadelphia company is coming here with a view to build the road on their own account, should the accounts of the mineral wealth of Wise county be anything, and what it is represented to be.—*Bristol News.*

PROBABLE MARINE DISASTER.—Schooner Lucy Wright, which left Fredericksburg, Va., more than three weeks ago for Savannah, laden with 12,000 bushels of corn, on account of A. K. Phillips & Co., has been lost. The schooner was left by Captain Hancock. She was a staunch vessel, and under command of Captain Elzey, an experienced seaman. Among the sailors on board were William H. Rollins and Robert Jennings, of Fredericksburg, and Richard Deatley, of King George. It feared the vessel was foundered, and that the crew and all souls on board are lost.—*Savannah News, 15th.*

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PETERSBURG. THE BRITISH CELEBRATION—LETTERS FROM PRINCE LEOPOLD AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.—STATE LICENSE-TAX—MATRIMONIAL—BOOTS IN THE APPOMATTOX—DEATH OF A CITIZEN OF CHERSTERFIELD—PARDED BY THE GOVERNOR—ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION AT ASHLAND, ETC. (Continued from the Richmond Dispatch.)

MAY 17, 1877.

Mayor Cameron to-day received a very gratifying reply to the address recently forwarded to Prince Leopold inviting the presence of his Royal Highness at the international British celebration. Lieutenant Colonel Philips, the controller of the Royal Highness's household, sends, on behalf of the Prince, a warm expression of sympathy, and expresses his Highness's great regret that he cannot pay his first visit to America in connection with an international event in which he is so much interested.

The secretary of the Association (Mr. Campbell) is receiving letters by every mail from remote towns in the western States and Canada inquiring about the celebration, which show how widely the interest in the celebration is extended. Letters of sympathy have been received from the Governors of North and South Carolina and other States.

Among other distinguished gentlemen who will respond to regular toasts at the banquet on the 24th are his Excellency General Komper, General Mahone, Hon. Myer Myers, Mayor Cameron, W. Gordon McGhee, and E. S. Gregory.

Mr. Peyton Johnson, of Richmond, is the authorized agent of the Association to collect and receive funds in your city for the entertainment of delegates.

The amount of State tax collected on licenses issued in this city this month was upwards of \$19,000—an excess of over \$200 in comparison with the State license-tax of last year. The complaint of hard times has not reduced the number of licenses.

Mr. John Keywell and Miss Emma Franklin, of Chesterfield county, were married at the church in Ettrick last evening in the presence of a large assemblage of friends, Rev. W. H. Gregory officiating.

The feast at the Ettrick church this week has been attended with remarkable and most gratifying success.

It is urged as a matter of safety and convenience to pilots and owners of vessels running in the Appomattox that buoys be placed at proper places to mark points of danger and define the channel. It is said that buoys can be obtained without expense if the council will make application for them.

Mr. John M. Wells, a prominent and well-known citizen and farmer of Chesterfield county, died this morning of dropsy, aged seventy years. He was a resident of the village of Mills, and was long known and respected throughout his county.

W. C. G. Andrews, of North Carolina, who was convicted in the Hastings Court of this city last month of passing forged paper, was this morning released from jail that condition financially is no better than other sections of the State.

The loss of our slaves and the changed condition of our labor system have made and kept us poor; but I assert the proposition that Middle Virginia, as defined by Virginia's map, up to 1860, comprised the wealth of Virginia in great part, and that the products from her soil in money value was greater then and now per capita than any other division of the State.

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RESISTANCE TO UNITED STATES MARSHALS—A CALL FOR TROOPS.—New Orleans, May 16.—Some days ago the United States Circuit Court issued a writ for the seizure of land in the parish of Iberville, in violation of law. The deputy United States marshal seized a large number of logs and marsh keepers in possession. Marshal Pitkin reports having advised that the keepers' lives have been threatened by the log-men, and a call is made for United States troops to protect the keepers and prevent the removal of the property. The request for troops has been referred to Washington.

While three thousand persons were listening to a temperance speech in the Opera-House, Wilmington, Del., last Sunday afternoon, several puffs of smoke came up through the register in the main aisle of the orchestra. Several men leaped forward to watch the wreaths of smoke, and a boy shouted, "The building is on fire!" In an instant those in the balcony and orchestra circles climbed over the seats and rushed to the galleries where the route of the fire was indicated. The double doors in the galleries were torn from their hinges; the passage-ways were blocked up; women fainted; children screamed; there was a great panic. Suddenly there was a halt; some one on the stage shouted that there was no danger; the chorus sang a hymn; an old lady spring to her feet and yelled, "A Glory, hallelujah! I prepare to meet my God!" the auditors resumed their seats in fear and trembling; the panic was stayed. Meanwhile the managers of the Opera-House had rushed down cellar with a pile of water, and discovered that a pile of coals was smoldering and blazing. The flames were extinguished in a few minutes. There was every indication that the building had been set on fire by some toper who was not sober enough to do mischief intelligently.

NAVIGATION ON THE BALTIMORE.—Cronstadt, May 16.—Steamer communication with St. Petersburg is reopened. The ice has broken up as far as Nisib.

A new post-office is established at Hopewell, Louisiana, on the route from the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of Mexico. A new post-office is established at Pullins, Pittsylvania county, Va., on the route from Chatham to Glade Hill, with Bruce A. Pullen as postmaster. The post-office at Dagger's Springs, Botetourt county, Va., is closed. The post-office at Buchanan to Clifton Forge, is reestablished, with George E. Taylor as postmaster.

Adelina Patti made her first appearance at Covent Garden Theatre, London, on Tuesday night. She was received with the greatest enthusiasm by an audience which is spoken of as crowding every part of the house.

Accidentally deceased yesterday, in the bath-room near the Nine-Mile road, GEROME ANTONIO, son of James N. and Lucy J. Brizzolara; aged ten years and even months.

His funeral will take place from St. Patrick's church to-day at 3 o'clock. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend.

Died, at his residence, No. 321 Twenty-fourth street, on the evening of May 17, 1877, E. P. TOWNSHIP, aged 50 years.

His funeral will take place from the Second Baptist church at SALUDA MORNING at 11 o'clock. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

New York and New Haven, Conn., papers please be notified, suddenly on yesterday, at 11 o'clock A. M., Z. P. PEARMAN, in the forty-seventh year of his age. He leaves a wife and six children.

His funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 412 East Marshall street, at 3 o'clock THIS (Friday) AFTERNOON. Friends and acquaintances are invited to attend.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

COHEN BROTHERS

ARE CLOSED TO-DAY.

WILL REOPEN MONDAY NEXT.

WITH THOUSANDS OF VARIOUS GOODS

JUST RECEIVED.

GREAT BARGAINS!

GREAT BARGAINS!

ARE IN STORE FOR NEXT WEEK.

DON'T BUY GOODS UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT

COHEN BROTHERS

WILL SELL NEXT WEEK.

(my 18)

DURING THE WARM SEASON

COHEN BROTHERS

WILL

OPEN EVERY MORNING

AT

6:30 O'CLOCK.

(my 18)

COHEN BROTHERS

ARE CLOSED TO-DAY.

WILL REOPEN MONDAY NEXT.

GREAT BARGAINS IN STORE FOR NEXT

WEEK.

SIDE AND SPACE-PLATING,

Stamping and Plating Depot and

my 16-61

NEW GOODS FOR MAY.

T. R. PRICE & CO. have received within the past few days more novelties in DRESS GOODS—some very low priced:

WASH-POPLINS, 10 and 12½c.

ZEBRA SUITING, 12½c.

BROCADE (new styles), 25, 30, and 35c.

BLACK AND COLORED GREXADINES.

CAMEL-HAIR GREXADINES (new).

BLACK AND COLORED SILKS, 1½ and 2½c.

PERFECT FINEST ORGANDIES, for overdresses.

COLORED LAUNES, 12½, 15, and 25c.

SOLID CAMBRICS, 12½ to 25c.

my 30

BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

T. R. PRICE & CO. are offering

Five-4 BLEACHED COTTON at 10 and 12½c.

PERFECT FINEST ORGANDIES, for overdresses.

COLORED LAUNES, 12½, 15, and 25c.

SOLID CAMBRICS, 12½ to 25c.

my 30

NEW MOURNING GOODS.

T. R. PRICE & CO. have opened

BLACK TAMISE, BLACK HENRIETTA,

BLACK CRAPE CLOTH,

BLACK VELVETS, LOVE VELVETS,

BLACK KID AND SILK GLOVES,

BLACK ALPACAS AND MOURNING—cheap.

my 30

JEWELRY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Come and see,

the largest lot of

PINE DIAMONDS that were ever offered in

Richmond. You can buy a pair of SOLITAIRE

DIAMONDS for \$100, a pair for \$110, worth

\$200, a pair for \$120, worth \$250, a pair

for \$150, worth \$200, a pair for \$180, worth

\$250, a pair for \$200, worth \$300, a pair

for \$250, worth \$350, a pair for \$300, worth

\$400, a pair for \$350, worth \$450, a pair

for \$400, worth \$500, a pair for \$450, worth

\$550, a pair for \$500, worth \$650, a pair

for \$550, worth \$700, a pair for \$600, worth

\$800, a pair for \$650, worth \$900, a pair

for \$700, worth \$1,000, a pair for \$750, worth

\$1,100, a pair for \$800, worth \$1,200, a pair

for \$850, worth \$1,300, a pair for \$900, worth

\$1,400, a pair for \$950, worth \$1,500, a pair

for \$1,000, worth \$1,600, a pair for \$1,050, worth

\$1,700, a pair for \$1,100, worth \$1,800, a pair

for \$1,150, worth \$1,900, a pair for \$1,200, worth

\$2,000, a pair for \$1,250, worth \$2,100, a pair

for \$1,300, worth \$2,200, a pair for \$1,350, worth

\$2,300, a pair for \$1,400, worth \$2,400, a pair

for \$1,450, worth \$2,500, a pair for \$1,500, worth

\$2,600, a pair for \$1,550, worth \$2,700, a pair

for \$1,600, worth \$2,800, a pair for \$1,650, worth

\$2,900, a pair for \$1,700, worth \$3,000, a pair